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HANFORD PROJECT OFFICE

AUG 7 1995

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AGENCY

Kevin Oates  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5  
Richland, WA 99352



8/9/95

Response to proposed plans for interim remedial measures at the 100-DR-1, 100-BC-1, and the 100-HR-1 operable units.

1. Airborne releases. During excavation of these sites I am concerned that wetlands along the river will be impacted not only by the amount of dirt picked up by the wind but also by the types of constituents used to dampen the sites to inhibit airborne releases. Are these constituents biologically friendly? Will we be seeing more damage to the environment by using them? We need to be involved in the decision if there is a tradeoff. Damage to any wetlands will directly affect the fish in the river who are dependent on the wetlands for food. What is the design for inhibiting release?
2. There is concern that there is so much remediation necessary in the retention basins ( such as 116-H-7) that DOE may not be able to excavate fully due to limitations of the size of ERDF. By using access ramps sloped at 5:1 you can minimize the amount of dirt removal and the potential for massive amounts of clean dirt to end up in ERDF. I do not want to see another ERDF proposed in the future.
3. Characterization is not an end in and of itself. Monitoring is a supporting tool - not an end in and of itself. The Future Sites Working Group classified this area as being cleaned for unrestricted use. Use of institutional controls to limit movement of contamination deemed unrecoverable will preclude some forms of human interaction - such as agricultural. At the Portland airport meeting on July 27th it really hit me ( when Nancy Werdel stated that this attempt will be a one shot\ best shot deal) that we'd better see this done satisfactorily the first time.

I am 100% behind "getting on with it" and tackling this cleanup knowing that there will be "surprises" as we get into remediation. This concern focuses on the public's, the tribe's and the state of Oregon having input at those decision junctions which are post ROD. We must have access to public comment in the CERCLA process.

In reading the interim final plan: The proposed Plan, The Record of Decision, Explanation of Significant Differences and The Record of Decision Amendment ( EPA document #540/G-89/007) I see that "significant change" is a situation where the logical outgrowth of the proposed plan is subverted based on more information which we might not have anticipated. I want to quantify "significant" to mean any change representing more than 20% (be it cost, or volume or both). It must come back to an open forum in order to make the decision on how to proceed with remediation.

This is especially important in that decisions which will be made will preclude some options for the future. You need consensus by stakeholders at the front-end so that we can continue a dialogue centered in trust and based on common understanding. This does not mean that everyone has to agree with how to proceed with cleanup , but you will be guaranteed that people will be satisfied

that all points were heard. . We must have access to public comment in the CERCLA process.

4. It concerns me that the goal of unrestricted use as proposed by the Future Site Uses Working Group is ignored and is not in the least a consideration. Wasn't this the point of their exercise - to set limits? I don't see this addressed in the remedial measures and I didn't hear it adequately addressed at the airport meeting.

Greg Eidam rather shrugged this off by stating that only 7-8% of the 100 area site is actually contaminated. What is the value of our input?

5. We still haven't determined "how clean is clean". When does the public have input on that discussion and decision?

6. In the Proposed Plan for Interim Remedial Measures at the 100-BC-1 Operable Unit, page 7, there is a discussion on Ecological risk. It speaks to evaluation of the potential impacts to the great basin pocket mouse.

I want to see evaluation of potential impacts - in the future- to the fish in the Columbia River factored into decisions on how clean is clean, and use of institutional control. I see the fish ( both bottom feeders and salmonoids as being indicator species which impacts on will reflect in the health of those of us living down river from Hanford.

SHELLEY CIMON  
1208 FIRST ST  
LA GRANDE, OR 97850  
(503) 9630853

August 2, 1995

DEPARTMENT OF  
ENERGY

Mr. Doug Sherwood, Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
712 Swift Avenue, Suite 5  
Richland, WA 99352

Dear Mr. Sherwood:

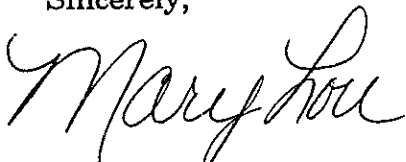
Everyone involved in Hanford issues is concerned about how to accomplish good public involvement at reasonable costs. Toward that end, we arranged for a Focus Group meeting on July 27 with representatives of the Tri-Parties and concerned Oregon citizens on the issue of the 100 Area cleanup plans.

We requested an informal, by invitation meeting to allow a less confrontational and more productive meeting than is typical of some Hanford public meetings. This format allowed the concerned public to have direct access to the process. It also allowed for a give and take between the Tri-Parties, technical staff from Bechtel and the public.

Unfortunately, we were only able to provide one weeks notice to those invited. Based on comments from the public we spoke with, we believe more preparation time would allow a much larger turnout. The fifteen people who participated are routinely involved in Hanford issues and found this approach useful.

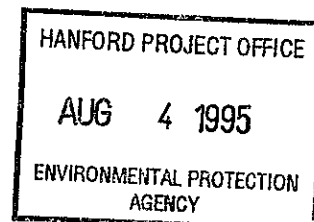
Though focus groups are by no means a replacement for formal public meetings, this format may serve as a good addition to formal meetings and can be done for substantially reduced costs. It was in our view a very successful and productive public meeting. Please extend our thanks to Kevin Oates.

Sincerely,



Mary Lou Blazek, Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program  
Nuclear Safety and Energy Facilities Division  
Oregon Department of Energy

cc: Kevin Oates

John A. Kitzhaber  
Governor

625 Marion Street NE  
Salem, OR 97310  
(503) 378-4040  
FAX (503) 373-7806  
Toll-Free 1-800-221-8035

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HANFORD PROJECT OFFICE

AUG 7 1995

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AGENCY

Doe by Aug. 9

Robin Klein

Hanford Action of Oregon

Po. Box 42633

Portland, OR 97232

(503) 235-2924

Comments:


100 Area Operable Unit

Response Action Alternatives

- "No action" and "Institutional Controls" are both unacceptable because the materials under consideration including contaminated soils, etc. pose risk of spread by wind, dust, transport by wildlife, water dispersion & migration increasing groundwater contamination.

- "Containment" and "In situ treatment" These options should be considered only if removal were deemed more dangerous than not retrieving the material. That is not the case in the 100 Area.

- "Remove/Dispose" and "Remove/Treat/Dispose" These are the best options. DOE must ensure enough that groundwater is monitored thoroughly throughout cleanup and afterward and reported to public. Groundwater monitoring is not explicitly called for in these 2 offered options.

-  We recommend ~~using~~ cleanup using a Removal option, but strive to cleanup to "unrestricted use" standards. However, actual land uses should be considered only after cleanup is completed and groundwater contamination, deep soil contamination, and surface and local wildlife & vegetation disruption can be evaluated.

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16700 S.E. 23rd Place  
Bellevue, Washington 98008  
July 8, 1995

Kevin Oates  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
712 Seift Avenue, Suite 5  
Richland, Washington 99352

Re: Hanford cleanup

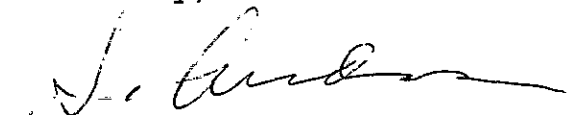
Dear Mr. Oates

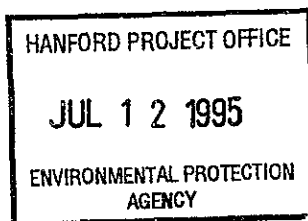
Where in the US is the lowest point of land?? Isn't it Death Valley. What is wrong with digging a tunnel or shaft about a mile long or deep and dumping all atomic waste and related materials in it and sealing it off with concrete. It shouldn't perk back to the surface and it shouldn't contaminate any water supply.

This should be possible unless it is a protected area or there is an endangered species in the area.

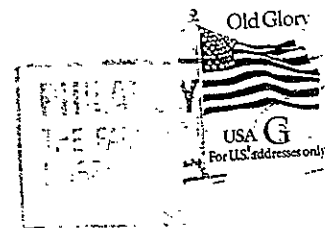
Please let me know why this is not possible. I would like to hear the reasons.

Sincerely,

  
S. (Andy) Anderson



Hamford Action of Oregon  
PO Box 42633  
Portland, OR 97232



Kelvin Cates  
US. EPA  
712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5  
Richland, W'A 99351



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July 30, 1995

Comment for Hanford 100 Area Cleanup Public Meeting  
Portland, Oregon Airport Meeting

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Thank you also for calling a meeting for interested parties in the Portland area. Because of my schedule it would be impossible for me to travel to the Richland or Seattle area meetings and I appreciate very much the opportunity to participate in what I consider very useful and informative gatherings. The information from these meetings is passed along by sharing the information with key environmental, political and social groups who follow Hanford issues.

I find it very significant that this planning comes as we remember the Hiroshima/Nagasaki Anniversary, and as the world struggles still with the question of nuclear testing and as the public plutonium disposition scoping meetings begin.

After only five decades of The Nuclear Age we face problems without technological solutions, political entanglements, a scarcity of funding and continuing ethical crisis concerning the impacts of what we are doing.

We need a comprehensive, defined, coordinated plan, in order to accomplish our goals. But in the meantime, here is my comment on this piece of the puzzle.

1. The preferred alternative presented in this proposed plan to remove, treat (as appropriate or required), and dispose of the contaminated soil and associated structures from 3 source areas. Yes! Begin this program now, making best estimates for treatment, spot check and alter treatments as necessary.
2. The preferred alternative will reduce potential threats to human health and the environment...ecological risks reduced ... and groundwater will not be adversely impacted. It is heartening to see a statement like this in print. I believe it is the essential basis for all planning.
3. The final land use for the 100 Area has not been established. I contend that wherever possible, especially in areas near to the Columbia, all possible efforts should be made to support the goals of not limiting future use, including residential and agricultural uses. However, if some areas will take longer to restore, that long range planning should be part of the contract.
4. Option 1 No Action. Unacceptable.

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5. Option 2 Institutional Controls. Unacceptable. Deed and access restriction are too susceptible to political and economic conditions. Groundwater monitoring is necessary, but is not clean up.

6. Containment. Unacceptable. This again is not clean up, only postponement of the problem.

7. Remove/Dispose. Unacceptable. This is moving the problem from one place to another and although this procedure might prove helpful, it is more responsible to do what we have to do now as the future is very uncertain.

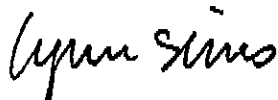
8. Remove/Treat/Dispose. Yes. This mess was created in an era of secrecy and blatant irresponsibility and mismanagement and we cannot change history. But we can impact the future. Now we know what we are doing. We know the price of our omissions. However we must keep in mind that in this era of risk/benefit management, that we are basing our planning on what we know. How does what we do not know, what has not yet been discovered, what time has not yet revealed, what the impact from a combination of chemicals, radioactivity, dirty air, dirty water, processed foods, unforeseen climate changes, seismic events or genetic degeneration ... how should these figure into our planning??

I would approve and implement the very best plans possible to begin significant and technologically possible clean up and install barriers to prevent further contamination when necessary. If the current climate continues, federal or state legislature may force economic or environmental standard reductions and the goal of cleaning up our disasters would end in failure.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment and arranging for Oregonians to participate.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Sims Hanford Watch



3959 NE 42  
Portland OR 97213



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## **Hanford 100 Area Cleanup Public Meeting COMMENTS**

We invite you to provide written comments on the proposed plans for the *Hanford 100 Area Cleanup* (100-BC-1, 100-DR-1, and 100-HR-1 Operable Units). Space has been provided if you wish to write down comments and suggestions. Please mail written comments to the following address, or return completed form to the registration desk prior to leaving the meeting.

Nancy Werdel  
U.S. Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 550 (H4-83)  
Richland, WA 99352  
(509) 376-5500

As the Future Sites Working Group (in HARB) has  
stated The final cleanup level should be, as  
much as humanly possible, to UNRESTRICTED.

Clean as much now. It will be much more  
expensive to come back in 20, 50, 100 yrs from  
now and redo it. I do not have trust in  
any Institutional Control which must last any  
significant amt. of time.

9513383.2516

Thomas A. Casey

P.O. Box 910 Woodinville, WA 98072

(206) 488-7708 Fax (206) 823-3964

26 June 1995

Mr. Kevin Oates  
U.S. EPA  
712 Swift Avenue, #5  
Richland, WA 99352

Dear Sir,

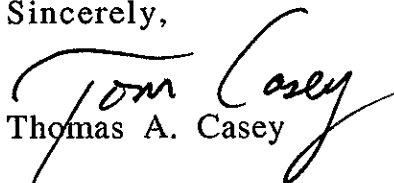
Congressional and public perception of the clean-up work being accomplished at Hanford could be improved by the same organizational method used by local, state, federal and industry teams after the Exxon Valdez oil spill in 1989.

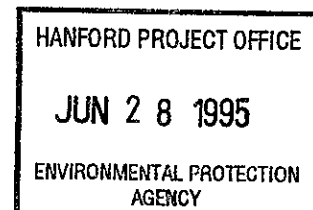
I worked on that project for 5-years and it seems to me that the Government-Industry team at Hanford could use it rather easily to better define

1. your day-to-day objectives, your monthly priorities and your annual mission
2. the logic of your financial decisions and planning
3. the frugality of your work habits
4. the reliability and thoroughness of your public communications
4. the measurable progress you can show each month.

This method might help the Hanford team increase public and Congressional confidence in its work, its accomplishments and its future. Perhaps we could discuss it, if such a thing sounds useful to your team.

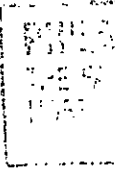
Sincerely,

  
Thomas A. Casey



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Hamford Action of Oregon  
PO Box 42633  
Portland, OR 97232



Kevin Cates  
US. EPA  
712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5  
Portland, OR 97251

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July 8, 95

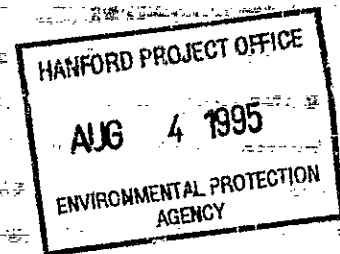
Kevin Oates

U.S. Environmental Protection

712 Swift Ave

Suite 5

Richland, Wa. 99352



Dear Sir,

In regard to Hanford Clean-up scheduling, I am very apprehensive about this operation.

Many years ago I tried to warn people about this possibility of leakage and was told "it would never happen".

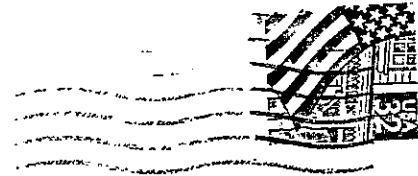
It did, and here we are, so I hope that this operation will be done in the best way possible.

Sincerely,

Brian Sundas



Barbara Sinclair  
P.O. Box 145  
Lopez, WA. 98261-0145



Mr. Kevin Oates  
U.S. Environmental Prot. Agency  
712 Swift Ave  
Richland, WA 99352

Snite #5

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8/4/94

KEVIN -

THANKS FOR THE FAX ON PRE-ROD/  
POST-ROD CHANCES - IT HELPED TO  
CLARIFY WHAT IT LIKE TO SEE!

I CANNOT IMAGINE CLEANUP PROCEEDING  
WITHOUT THE PRESSURE FROM YOU GUYS.

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HAND WORK -

SHELLEY CIMON